(In US $ Million)

Year	Imports to India	Exports to India	Trade Balance	Trade volume
1995	765.00	398.00	–367.00	1163.00
1996	689.54	719.16	+29.62	1408.00
Growth in 1996				20.9%

The efforts being made to explore new areas of bilateral trade with China include holding of the meeting of Indo-China Joint Economic Group on Economic Relations, Trade, Science and Technology; increased participation in Trade Fairs to increase awareness in both countries and exposure of China's & India's technological capabilities to each others traders; identification of items, technologies and sectors with scope for furthering exports and initiating appropriate policy initiatives, and disseminating information about China's import requirements to our exporters.

Dues Against NTC

6520. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL :
DR. G.R. SARODE :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Maharashtra has been repeatedly requesting the Government and the National Textile Corporation for clearance of ever-increasing dues of Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Federation towards purchases of cotton;

(b) if so, the total outstanding dues as on date;

(c) the reasons for delay in payment of arrears; and

(d) the steps taken to ensure regular payment of dues for cotton purchases by NTC ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) to (d) Cotton is purchased by NTC on credit terms and, therefore, three are bound to be some outstanding dues at any given point of time. The outstanding dues payable by NTC to Maharashtra State Cooperative Cotton Growers' Marketing Federations are Rs. 122 crores as on 31.3.1997, including interest and carrying charges. The NTC has not been able to clear the entire outstanding dues on account of acute shortage of working capital, NTC is expected to clear the dues ues on availability of funds.

NIFT Hyderabad

6521. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI PANABAKA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the National Institute of Fashion Technology, Hyderabad is incurring heavy, losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefore; and

(c) the action taken by the Government to make it viable ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) The National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT), Hyderabad is not incurring heavy losses.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Sale of Coal

6522. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of coal sold by Bharat Cooking Coal Limited under road sale from centralised coal dumps, national coal dumps and collieries directly during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for charging Ra.80 per tonne as service charge on the coal sold from national coal dumps despite national coal dumps being not at par with centralised coal dumps;

(c) whether service charge of Rs. 80 per tonne is also collected on the coal sold directly from the collieries;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the objectives for which centralised coal dumps were set up are being fulfilled by selling coal directly through collieries; and

(f) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The quantum of coal sold by Bharat Coking Coal Limited under road sales from Centralised Coal Dumps, Notional Coal Dumps and collieries during the last three years is as under :-

(In lakh tonnes)

Year	Centralised Dump	National Dump	Collieries
1994-95	7.04	10.68	34.12
1995-96	5.68	15.10	36.21
1996-97 (Provisional)	3.97	20.62	29.09

(b) The service charges for sale of coal from Centralised dump and Notional dump have been kept at the same level to ensure price equity amongst consumers drawing coal from the dumps.

(c) Yes, Madam.

(d) Service charges for coal despatched from collieries have been kept at the same level as service charges for coal despatched from dumps to maintain price parity.

(e) and (f) The objectives for coal sale from centralised coal dumps and that from collieries directly are different. The objective for sale of coal through centralised dumps was to keep the consumers away from the collieries so that influence of vested interests and law and order problems arising out of that is eliminated. However, the objective of selling coal through collieries is to enable the total sales.

[English]

Anti-Dumping Duty

6523. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated November 19, 1996 under captioned 'Plastic woven sacks units plea against duty';

(b) if so, whether the European Union has decided to impose anti-dumping duty on India HDPE/PP woven sacks which resulted adversely affect on the exports in this sector;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the steps taken to negotiate in this regard to protect the domestic industry; and

(e) if not, the reasons and justification therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir.

The European Union has imposed provisional anti-dumping duties on Indian HDPE/PP woven sacks of a kind used for packaging of goods and weighing 120 gr/m or less. The rates of the provisional anti-dumping duty imposed is 47.2% with the exception of imports manufactured by the following companies which are subject to the following rates :-

–	Gilt Pack Ltd.	3.2%
–	Kanpur Plastic Pack Ltd.	10.9%
–	Shankar Packagings Ltd.	20.7%
–	Polyspin Private Ltd. & Polyspin Export Ltd.	22.1% –
–	Buildmet Private Ltd.	26.7%

Though there is an overall growth in the exports of plastic woven sacks during 1996-97 there is a slight decline in the total exports of this item to the European Union.

(d) and (e) The plastics & Linoleum Export Promotion Council on behalf of Indian exporting units have engaged a consultant M/s. Van Bael & Beilis, Brussels for contesting the anti-dumping case filed by European Union.

Purchasing Committee in NTC

6524. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the textile mills under National Textile Corporation where purchase, Committees have been constituted for supervising purchases, State-wise; and

(b) the value of goods purchased after obtaining the opinion of the Committees during last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA) : (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Hosue.

[Translation]

Export of Fruit, Vegetables and Flowers

6525. SHRI L. RAMANA :
SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV :
SHRI ILIYAS AZMI :
SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of fruit, vegetables and flowers exported and the foreign exchange earned thereform during each of the last three years upto March 31, 1997, country-wise;

(b) the details of India's position in respect of exports of the above separately, in comparison to the other countries of the world;

(c) whether there is ample potential for the export of above items;

(d) if so, whether there is any scheme for providing assistance to the growers for increasing the export of these